



# ELSAH HISTORY

Number Twenty-three

ELSAH HISTORY

April 1978

## RESTORING THE VILLAGE HALL INTERIOR

by Glenn Felch

In the fall of 1973, HEF funded the first major step in the restoration of the Elsah Village Hall by straightening the hall's 1887 facade and re-shingling its weathered roof. At that time plans to upgrade the interior were initiated, but funds were not available to do so until the summer of 1977, when Dr. John Wanamaker, retiring Professor of Biology at Principia College, left to HEF the contents of a furnished apartment for use in raising funds for the foundation. Under the planning of Paul Williams, HEF member and editor of EH, a Village Hall sale was organized with proceeds earning the foundation almost \$2,000. The members of the foundation board unanimously agreed to use the Wanamaker funds for completing the Village Hall re-furbishing project.

Few nineteenth century public buildings of the Village Hall category have survived the ravages of twentieth century progress. Especially sensitive to the hall's unique and continuing role in Elsah, HEF's primary concern has been to keep the hall functional but with an added flavor of authenticity befitting the category to which the building fits architecturally.

With this priority in mind research was compiled based on the appearance of public buildings ca. 1900 and consideration given to how far Elsah's Village Hall should deviate from its original simplicity. Much of the charm of the hall is found in the relationship of its large windows to the small interior space--a feature resulting from a midwestern translation of Greek Revival proportions. So when actual work began on the hall in September, 1977, decisions were designed to accent the hall's special features without jeopardizing its compelling, unpretentious appearance.

Under the coordination of efforts by Marianne Pitchford and Glenn Felch, friends and professionals worked steadily, painting the interior and its furnishings, adding peg rails and closets, installing new "kerosene style" lights in place of the former school-house fixtures, and repairing the old piano. In addition to the interior changes, the accompanying outhouse is being upgraded and a typical Elsah picket fence will be added to the front lawn this spring.

Much discussion occurred prior to the selection of the interior color scheme. Several color combinations were considered in the light of turn-of-the-century authenticity, but a final choice of light and dark green

with red accents was selected as a change from the former beige and as a support for the highlight of the yearly Christmas decorations. The greens also enhance the beautifully worn floor boards which have a mellow aqua appearance.

One of the perplexing yet humorous dilemmas which faced the renovating committee was whether or not to build the new closets truly or optically plumb. The closet spaces occupy a few feet between two of the hall's front windows. When first built by level and logic, the closets looked most irregular because of their immediate comparison to the adjacent, tilting, windows. After changing the closet framework to a slant of nearly five inches off vertical--thereby matching the window units--the awkward visual discrepancy lessened considerably.

In addition to servicing the needs of the Elsah community as has been customary, the foundation is planning on having the hall open during good weather for village visitors to view the particular charms of the building. A small area at the front of the building will be roped off, serving as a foyer: drawings of the village as it appeared in 1887 will accompany a brief description of the history of the structure.

As a result of the upgrading efforts and minor main-



One of Elsah's welcome signs, in a snowstorm, seems to portray the severity of the recent winter, with its record cold and near record snowfalls. Now, in late April, we are grateful to have survived and to find the spring flowers coming out, as usual, though somewhat behind schedule.

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tenance to be accomplished this spring, certain guidelines for the use of the Village Hall will be strictly encouraged so that the building's architectural character can be more effectively maintained. Requests for use of the hall should be addressed to HEF.

The foundation board is especially grateful for Dr. Wanmaker's generous provision, for all those friends who supported the summer sale, and for each of the members who contributed time and energy to the completion of the project. A special thanks is given to professional painters Tom and David Wright of Grafton, carpenter James White of Chautauqua, and master fence maker Roy Flowers of Grafton.

for additional information about family members and ancestors, such as birth and death dates, places of burial, and religion.

All these charts are available from Frank Rademacher, 705 Cathy Lane, Mt. Prospect, Illinois 60056. The first and second are \$1.00 for fifty, the third is \$1.70 for one hundred. If any HEF member would like a few of them, the EH editor would be glad to supply them. If postage would be needed to send them, please provide \$.13 for the first sheet and \$.11 for each additional two with your request.

## SOLAR TALK

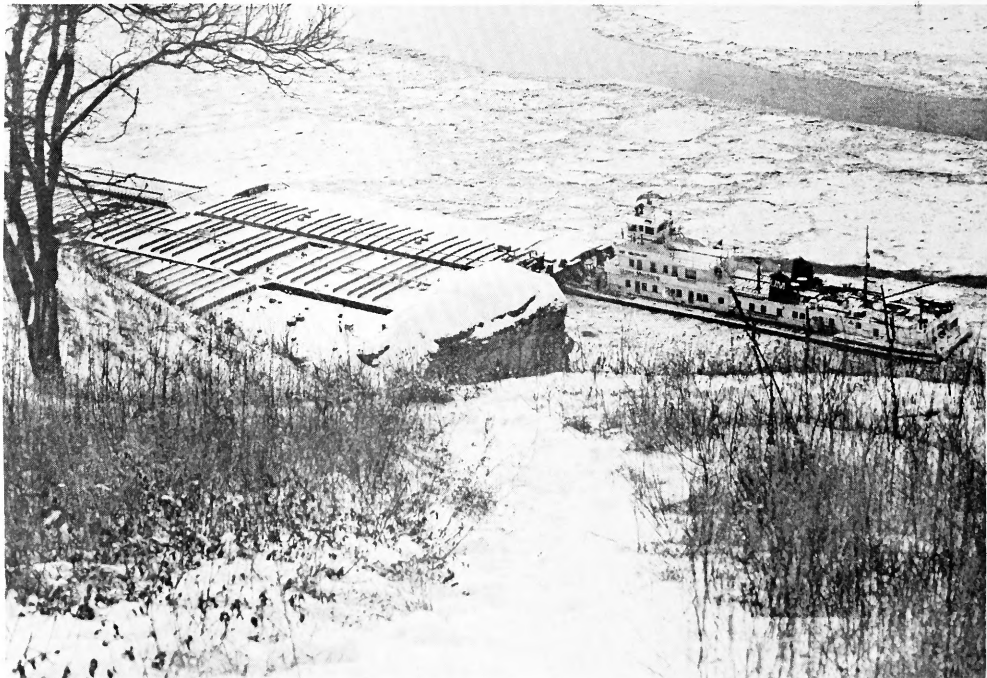
Dr. Tom Holzberlein, a physicist living in Elsay township and teaching at Principia College, has been doing much research lately on solar energy. On March 4th the village board of Elsay sponsored Dr. Holzberlein in a talk on "Energy for the Future." This talk was given at the Civic Center.

Certainly this is a subject of interest to preservationists, especially in the light of the fact that most historic structures are either not insulated or are poorly insulated, hence are big energy users. Rendering those structures energy-efficient, and perhaps including solar energy sources that are not out of harmony with the appearance of historic structures or areas are problems which will give challenges to preservationists in the near future.

## ROOTS

HEF has recently received copies of three useful genealogical sheets. The first, a relationship chart, enables one to calculate the relationship one has to a great variety of close and distant relatives with ease. For example, if you are the great grandson of a common progenitor with someone who is the great great granddaughter, you are her second cousin, once removed.

A second chart, the pedigree chart, enables one to record information about his family easily on a standard form. This one leads backward in time from oneself and one's spouse. The third is a family sheet. This provides places



Record cold and much ice tied up locking procedures at Alton greatly during the recent winter, and often, as

here, one could see barges tied up along the Elsay riverbank, waiting their turn to lock through.



Mr. Edgar Hansell, of Des Moines, Iowa, has recently sent us this picture of the Hansell House on the corner of LaSalle and Palm Streets. It would appear that this picture is one of a group of ferrotypes, perhaps taken at the same time, during the 1880's, of a number of Elsay scenes, including the Keller Store, the Reintges-Murphy House, and the McNair saw and grist mill.

The Hansell House is, of course, the house recently acquired by Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Semple after the passing of Jo Copeland.

Mr. Hansell includes the following note on the picture: "The house was occupied by the family of Francis Harrison Hansell (born April 5, 1809, in Thirsk, England, died 1869 and buried at Point Prairie, Missouri). Francis had immigrated from Thirsk, England, with his father, mother, and brothers and sister to settle in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, in 1819. At some later date, Francis met and married Annie Freeman Plummer, who was born in Maine. Francis does not appear in the . . . picture. Annie appears . . . and is the small, elderly lady holding the handkerchief standing to the right of the girl in the white overdress. Francis, Annie, and his brother (Richard, I believe) left the rest of the Hansell family in Indiana and came to the Elsay area, but I don't know when.

"Also in the picture is Myron Holly Hansell, son

of Francis and Annie. He appears with the derby and mustache behind the fence to the right in the picture. His wife was Lydia Noble, daughter of George W. and Sarah Swan Noble, whom I believe also lived in the Elsay area. Lydia died at an early age and is not in the picture. Two of Myron and Lydia's children appear in the picture: Katherine Dentry Hansell (who later married a Campbell) appears in front of her father and is holding a white sheet of paper; Frank Noble Hansell is the man standing with crossed legs second from the right in the picture. I am the grandson of Frank. Frank eventually married Kate Seagraves, also from the Elsay area. She was the daughter of James Madison Seagraves and Sarah Thompson Seagraves . . . ."

We might add that William McNair is the bearded man third from the right in the picture, and his brother, Robert, appears on the far left.

On April 4th Mr. Hansell, together with his wife, Phyllis, and his two sons, Jon and Jordan, visited Elsay and lunched at the Landing. They then visited the old Hansell home, now rented by Mrs. Philippina Sprenger, and toured the graveyard and other places of family memory in Elsay.



## ELSAH AREA GEODES

by Forbes Robertson

[In the article below, Professor Forbes Robertson explores geologic facts about one of the most interesting phenomena of the Elseh area--its geodes.

Research on geodes has been carried on over a number of years at the Geology Department of Principia College. Dr. Percival Robertson, Professor Emeritus and long-time resident of Elseh supervised much research in the 1940's and 1950's. The author, his son, has researched the occurrence of silica in the Mississippian rocks in the Elseh area and has long been intrigued by the occurrence of geodes. Both Robertsons have found evidence in support of the dehydration hypothesis sketched out in the paper below. Ed. Note.]

Cracking geodes in the creek beds around Elseh is a little like playing the slot machines. Three good cracks with a hammer and nothing happens? It is probably a solid geode you are working on, and it won't be very interesting when you finally do break it. But every once in awhile, you break one that shows some crystals, and then the Jack Pot, a geode with beautiful clear quartz crystals lining the cavity in the center of the rock.

Geodes at first resemble balls of rock--some the size of golf balls, others baseballs, and sometimes even the size of a softball or larger. They are hard and usually a bit flattened. When you look at one closely, you see that the surface has a cauliflower-like, wrinkled appearance which quickly distinguishes the rock as a geode and not a chert nodule. Chert nodules are usually found with geodes, but they have a much smoother surface.

Geodes weather out of the Warsaw shale formation which crops out in the beds of a number of streams in our vicinity. This formation is found over a large area--from southeastern Iowa to Indiana, down into northern Kentucky and across Missouri. Geodes are found almost everywhere where the Warsaw shale is exposed. The formation is not very thick, rarely fifty feet with only a few feet geodiferous. The formation is Mississippian in age, about 300 million years old.

When this entire region was an inland sea, mud accumulated on the sea floor. This later consolidated into the Warsaw shale. There are fossils of marine organisms in the shale, and this fact tells us that the shale formed in a marine environment. The geodes included in it are somewhat rounded nodules with a cherty crust. They have very sharp boundaries with the enclosing shale. Their origin is a puzzle to geologists. Some think that silica solutions penetrated the shale and replaced it. I think that may have happened in some shales, and certainly has happened in some limestones, but not in the Warsaw formation.

The Warsaw geodes are usually flattened and always have a wrinkled surface which resembles the shrinkage cracks which form on the skin of an apple that is left out too long. The wrinkled skin on the apple is due to dehydration of the meat of the apple under the skin. Somewhat similarly, globs of silica gel precipitated and agglomerated on the sea floor into sub-spherical masses which were buried by more mud. The weight of the overlying

muds caused the silica globs to flatten somewhat. Some geodes are actually quite flat--almost discus-shaped. They are clearly flattened by the weight of overlying sediments. As water was squeezed out of the muds by the weight of the overlying sediments, the silica began to dehydrate. Extremely fine grained crystals in the form of chert developed at the edges, and then as crystallization continued, the crystals became larger until some formed beautiful crystals with short prism faces terminated by pyramid-like faces which are actually rhombohedrons. During the dehydration, the cherty skin wrinkled and possibly cracked while the larger crystals were forming.

Probably the clincher for the dehydration hypothesis is the periodic occurrence of "shakers," geodes which rattle when you shake them. That proves that the geode is hollow, and the things that rattle are loose quartz crystals. Break such a geode with care and look at the loose crystals. They are doubly terminated--that is--they have pyramid-like faces at both ends of the crystals. These did not grow from the walls of the geode outward, but had to grow in some medium which would support them while the crystal developed on all sides and at both ends. It took something quite firm to hold such a growing crystal, and a silica gel, similar to the gelatin of a jello salad, would provide such support until the silica in the gel was used up.

No two geodes are alike. Sometimes the crystals inside are very small; in other cases they may be relatively coarse--up to a quarter of an inch across. Many are solid, others have very small cavities, and some are crystal-lined gem caverns. Many hollow geodes are filled with mud or coated with iron oxide which percolated through tiny cracks, probably after the geode was weathered out of the shale. But it is the rare hollow geode with beautiful clear quartz crystals which is the prize.

In addition to quartz there may be other minerals in the geode. Calcite is probably the commonest second mineral. Sometimes there are nice calcite crystals on the inside. In our area, calcite, dolomite, barite, pyrite, sphalerite, and galena have also been found. A few geodes contain white clay. And in northwestern Illinois, some geodes contain petroleum.

The various additional minerals are thought to have been introduced after the cavity formed and the initial quartz crystals developed. Solutions carrying small amounts of mineral matter percolated through the shales and into the geodes which, when they wrinkled, provided very small cracks through which the solutions could penetrate and then deposit their load in the cavity, forming the exotic minerals.

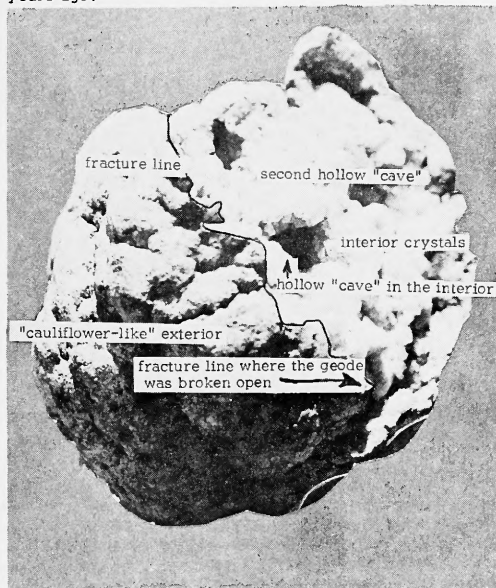
In some geodes, the quartz crystals have secondary growths of silica. Sometimes they deposited on one of the two rhombohedral faces; sometimes they covered the crystals producing globular or botryoidal coatings.

Wherever the Warsaw shale is exposed in a creek bed, the shale, which is weak, is easily weathered and eroded away. But the geodes are large, relatively heavy, and are very resistant to weathering. So they are left as rounded silica balls in the stream beds, along with nodules of chert which have weathered out of the limestones which underlie and overlie the Warsaw formation. But only the Warsaw formation, in our area, produces geodes.

Each spring, a new crop of geodes are weathered out

of the shale, and geodes which were once buried in the creek gravels become exposed as a result of the rearranging of boulders in the creek during the spring floods.

That is why the creeks are not all picked out by searchers for geodes. So take your hammer in hand, get permission from the property owner to explore, and then walk the creeks looking for the tell-tale shrinkage patterns on the rounded balls of rock. Three cracks--not much use. It is probably a solid one. But persist. If you find a "shaker," tap her lightly, and you may be rewarded with loose crystals in a crystal-lined geode. Then the Jack Pot--a geode which breaks into two halves, each of which is a crystal-lined gem cave formed 300 million years ago.



AN ELSAH GEODE

## THE MISUSED ILLINOIS

ILLINOIS TIMES, a weekly newspaper published in Springfield, with features on downstate Illinois, included a fascinating series of articles on the Illinois River in its November 18-24, 1977, issue.

The Illinois is the most studied river in the world, according to the TIMES. At one time, also, it was one of the world's most productive, but unfortunately it has become one of the world's most misused as well.

One of the reasons for this is the dumping of Chicago sewage into it, a practice which began in 1900. Another reason, according to Harold Henderson of the TIMES, is that "in the 1930's, the Illinois River formally ceased to exist. It has been replaced--at least in Army Corps of Engineers publications--by the 'Illinois Waterway.' The Waterway is part of a nine-foot deep water highway run-

ning from the Gulf of Mexico to the Great Lakes, and maintained by damming and dredging." Dam building, dredging, silting, spoil bank deposit, and leveeing off of backwater lakes has turned one of the most productive areas for aquatic species and water fowl into a ship channel.

Ducks have deserted large areas of the river, their food sources gone. Aquatic plants have died out. A full 116 "possibly poisonous or carcinogenic compounds" have been introduced into the river water. While in 1908 commercial fishermen harvested over 20 million pounds of fish from the Illinois, the current harvest is less than one-fortieth of that, that is, less than 500,000 pounds.

It gives one pause to know that when a Chicagoan washes his hair with anti-dandruff shampoo, or cleans his plumbing with some caustic substance, or dumps his old film developer down the sink, or whatever else, some portion of those chemicals flows past Elsah--on its way to the supply system of the Alton Water Company, from the pipes of which Elsah draws its drinking water.

## BIRDS

Gil Ives has sent us a list of the birds seen on the annual winter census conducted on the last day of December 1977. Altogether 41 different species were seen, and 1,079 individuals. The list included the following: 2 belted kingfishers, 16 common flickers, 3 pileated woodpeckers, 26 red-bellied woodpeckers, 16 red-headed woodpeckers, 1 yellow-bellied sapsucker, 2 hairy woodpeckers, 29 downy woodpeckers, 2 horned larks, 54 blue jays, 10 common crows, 80 black-capped chickadees, 64 tufted titmice, 25 white-breasted nuthatches, 1 red-breasted nuthatch, 1 Carolina wren, 9 northern mockingbirds, 11 American robins, 4 eastern bluebirds, 2 cedar waxwings, 116 European starlings, 162 house sparrows, 88 cardinals, 48 evening grosbeaks, 3 purple finches, 12 pine siskins, 6 American goldfinches, 220 northern juncos, 6 American tree sparrows, 4 white-crowned sparrows, 29 white-throated sparrows, 2 fox sparrows, 2 swamp sparrows, 9 song sparrows, 1 snow bunting, 4 common goldeneyes, 1 Cooper's hawk, 1 red-tailed hawk, 4 American kestrels, 10 rock doves, and 3 barred owls.

## PERMANENT POLLUTION?

Union Electric continues to press for permanent variances from the present Missouri air pollution standards for its Portage des Sioux plant near Elsah.

Illinois Attorney General William J. Scott has been opposing the move, saying that Union Electric's request represented "an unfair attempt to use up the allowable margins of industrial air pollution in the Greater St. Louis area, at the expense of Illinois citizens and industry."

Union Electric is asking for permission to emit 6.3 pounds of sulphur dioxide per million BTU's.

This matter is of concern to Elsah area citizens because of the fact that the prevailing winds usually bring the smoke plume from the Portage des Sioux plant into Elsah township. A report on the matter, from which much of the above was taken, appeared in the Jerseyville DEMOCRAT NEWS on January 19th, 1978.

## TITLED ARTICLES IN EH, NO'S 1-22

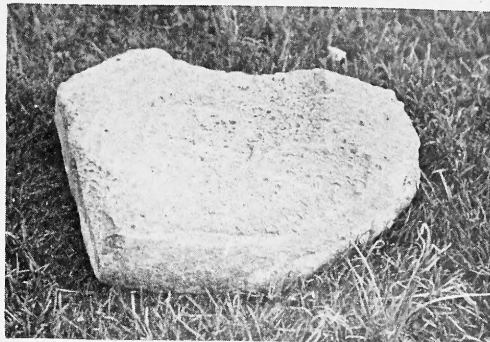
- "About Historic Elseh," #1.  
 "Addison and Nathaniel Green," #12.  
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 "Alton Dam Question, The," #17.  
 "Annexation," #16.  
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## ROBYN RELPH

EH is saddened to record the passing of Robyn Relph, of Valley Street, Elsay, on February 7th. Mr. Relph had been born October 1, 1900 in Minnesota. He was the son of Richard and Maude Boylan Relph. After living for a time in St. Louis, Mr. Relph came to Elsay many years ago, settling with his mother in his Valley Street house.

He served Elsay for many years as its clerk and treasurer, and also worked, until his retirement, in the Elsay Post Office. At home he ran a small radio and television repair business.

In Elsay Mr. Relph is remembered for his high sense of integrity, his quiet good humor, and his many services to the community.



This metate, or grinding stone, was found by the editor at the Principia Knob site, a Jersey Bluff village site reported on periodically in EH. It is 16 1/2 inches by 12 3/4 inches in dimensions.

## IRA McCOLL

EH regrets to report the passing of Mr. Ira McColl at the end of January. Mr. McColl was born in Saskatchewan in 1886. Later he moved to St. Louis, where he was an apartment maintenance man. He became, in due course, a naturalized American citizen. He and his wife, Nonie Grace, moved to Elsay in 1932, settling in a small rock house on Mill Street, one of the two formerly owned by the McNair family. In Elsay Mr. McColl did yard work for many years.

The McColls have three children living, including Ira, Jr., of Newport, Ohio, Elsworth, of St. Louis, and Verner Richards, of Long Beach, California. Another son, Anthony, was killed in Germany in World War II.

In recent years, in true village spirit, Mrs. Dennie Minarick has taken care of the aging McColls, and Mrs. McColl now lives with Mrs. Minarick in her home on Valley Street.

The question of whether or not Chicago will be allowed to pump additional water from Lake Michigan into the Illinois River continues to be argued. The proponents of this concept say that the high level of the lake is damaging shore properties by erosion. The opponents point out the damage to the Illinois River if the proposal is carried out. They point out that the problem of Lake Michigan is theirs, and the raising of the level of the Illinois, especially during floods, is no way to solve the problem.

The proposed rate of diversion is 10,000 cubic feet per second. Currently Chicago draws its water supply from Lake Michigan and flushes its sewage down the Illinois River. Damage from this practice has been documentedly immense.

State Senator Vince Demuzio has been quoted as saying in opposition to the proposal that downstate Illinois does not want to be Chicago's "dumping and flushing ground."

## PRESERVATION TEXT

The Illinois Department of Conservation has recently published a truly fascinating book pertinent to the interests of HEF members. Entitled PRESERVATION ILLINOIS: A Guide to State & Local Resources, it consists of twenty-six chapters relating to preservation in Illinois, preservation law, both federal and state, historic surveys (both national and state), the Illinois Register of Historic Places, preservation methodology for interested groups, preservation education, researching buildings, archaeology, building codes, repair, and the like.

Each chapter is written by a recognized authority, experienced in the field. Chapter two, by the way, entitled, "Preservation Movement in Illinois," is by the HEF president, Charles B. Hosmer, Jr.

This well-illustrated softbound book consists of 281 pages of information, and in addition an index. It may be ordered from the Illinois Department of Conservation, 605 State Office Building, 400 South Spring Street, Springfield, IL 62706. The cost is \$6.00.

PRESERVATION ILLINOIS includes a picture of the cover of the Elsay guidebook in the section on surveys and publications. Elsay is now one of thirty-one historic districts on the National Register of Historic Places from the state of Illinois.



On April 5, 1978, Charles Hosmer spoke at the annual meeting of the Alton Museum of History and Art. The session at the Hayner Library began with his account of "What's new in Elsay." The talk included a brief history of the formation of the Foundation, the passage of the zoning laws and the challenges faced by those who are trying to keep Elsay free of intrusions that might change its character significantly.

On April 8, Charles Hosmer spoke to a meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Service of Chicago on the subject of the history of preservation sentiment in Illinois at a meeting in Galesburg.

## HOUSE TOUR

This year's HEF house tour will be held on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. Co-chairmen of the event are Martin Marshall and Shirley Vogt.

Six houses will be exhibited on the tour.

One, the Bell-Grayson home, a fine example of Greek Revival architecture, in fact Elsah's only example in brick, was built prior to the Civil War. Mrs. Frances Grayson has furnished the interior tastefully with fine antiques and her own needlepoint and crewel work.

The Buggy Shop, built by John Reintges in 1877 for the making and repair of wagons and buggies, is also on the tour. The main floor now houses the Rock Shop of Western Minerals, Inc., a small company owned by Forbes and Barbara Robertson. In 1974 the building was burned, but the Robertsons completely restored it to its original exterior appearance and modernized the interior, which includes a second floor apartment. The apartment is also on the tour.

The Valley Street home of Sidney and Audrey Wilck, built in 1897, is also open to the public. This home was completely redone by Edward Hussey in the 1930's; Hussey changed it from a white frame home to a half-timbered house. Other Hussey experiments include the unique garage, with its gunitite (sprayed concrete) roof resting on old automobile frames, and slanting front doors.

Michael and Mary Ann Pitchford, owners of the Methodist Parsonage built in 1859, have furnished their home in antiques from the mid-nineteenth century. They have recently added a traditional Elsah picket fence and a carriage house.

The brick home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Holt was built around 1859, and is magnificently furnished. This home has gone through several stages, the most significant involving the changes added by Stephen H. Tyler after 1873.

The recently remodeled home of Ron and Jane Musselman will be open to public viewing for the first time. The original three small rooms are now one large livingroom with an open-beamed ceiling. Additional rooms have been added along with a deck overlooking a scenic valley. Much of the furniture was made by Ron Musselman, and paintings by his father are on the walls. Paintings will be for sale at the tour.

Glenn and Judy Felch are opening their small art gallery, Ailsa Craig, for a showing of paintings, drawings, and metalsmithing.

Elsah Landing, now three years old as a restaurant, is housed in a building that dates from 1894, when it was established as Lee Mott's drug store. The Landing has a far-flung clientele and is included in national guides of eating places.

The Elsah Methodist Church and First Church of Christ, Scientist, will also be open. The Civic Center, formerly the Elsah school, newly redecorated, will house a bake sale and a sale of hand crafts, and its upper room will reopen as the Village of Elsah Museum, with entirely new displays. Wool spinning may be observed at the Village Hall, along with the sale of hand-woven items, china painting, and water color paintings and sketches by Principia College art professors and students. The old "calaboose," behind and below the Village Hall, will also be open.

The former Methodist Hall, now an antique store, will offer a choice of local antiques.

A water fountain and snack sale will be available in Fountain Square Park.

Historic Elsah Foundation plans to use the proceeds of the house tour for civic projects such as its progressive restoration of the Village Hall and its historical publication program.

## NOTES

Mrs. F. H. Carrier, of 601 South Baywood Avenue, San Jose, CA 95128, a descendant of the Piggotts, has been putting together a genealogy of the Piggott family. She is planning to charge \$2.75 for it. HEF will have a copy for consultation when it is produced.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers is currently beginning a study of the Mississippi River known as Great III. Anyone interested in knowing what is going on in this study or in contributing his particular views to it may get on the mailing list of the corps project by writing to George Clapp, project coordinator, at the Navigation Studies Section of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, 210 N. 12th Street, St. Louis, MO 63101.

The Village of Elsah Museum plans to reopen with new exhibits for the house tour this Mother's Day. The museum would very much like to have donations of old tools for its collection and would be very grateful for them. Especially wanted are any old commercial fishing tools and corn shucking tools. Donors may contact the museum by calling Paul Williams at 374-2763.

HEF is grateful for a contribution of \$25 from Mrs. Laura Hance.

Some efforts are being made to declare the Koster archaeological site a state historic site. Over 40,000 people visited the site in 1977, and the figure is expected to increase during the coming year. Current plans indicate that this summer will be the last season of digging at the site, which has been for some time now one of the most interesting archaeological sites in the United States.

In a recent letter from Frank E. Daniels of Jerseyville, he notes, "We are especially interested in the December, 1977, ELSAH HISTORY, including the picture of the Reintges family. Flora Daniels Reintges was a cousin of my father, John Daniels of Jerseyville."

Ned Bradley recently gave an illustrated lecture about the Bradley House and its restoration to a meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Service. This meeting took place at the Mitchell Museum, Mt. Vernon, Illinois, on March 4th.

**CORRECTION:** The picture of the Reintges family in the last issue of EH was not taken in St. Louis but at the home of Daniel and Theresa Reintges Murphy in Granite City, Illinois.

